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No one should be denied access to care or services. As a representative of Borgess Medical Center and the Michigan Trauma Coalition I support these bills.

Everyday in the state of Michigan individuals are placed in harms way by the actions of others. These crime victims are our patients. They are the victims of assaults, penetrating injuries, road rage, and impaired drivers. In our trauma center last year 33% of the drivers involved in motor vehicle crashes that were admitted to the hospital tested positive for alcohol or other substances. These drivers put our families at risk everyday.

A trauma system is more than hospitals. The trauma system includes pre-hospital services, emergency room, in-patient care, and on through rehabilitation. It's about research, education and injury prevention. As a trauma nurse I am in the schools educating kids on the ramifications of drinking & driving, seatbelt safety, distracted driving, conflict resolution, bullying and violence. These prevention efforts are part of serving our communities.

It has been established in the literature that "trauma systems save lives". In 2006 the Florida trauma system published their state data that revealed treatment at a trauma center was associated with an 18 % reduction in mortality. This reduction in mortality yielded a cost of \$34,887/ life saved. The system demonstrated that 42% of the patients returned to work within 24 months.

A state system would give Michigan an organized approach across the state. Provide us with a comprehensive data base that would link with police, pre-hospital, hospital, rehabilitation and coroner's office to track incidences of both intentional and non-intentional injury.

I support the increase in funding for the victims of crime and the ability to establish a comprehensive trauma system to provide the care to optimize patient's reintegration into their community.